

**Amendments to the Claims**

Please amend claims 1, 3, and 7 as set forth below.

Please cancel 2, 4-6, and 8-11.

Please add new claims 12-18 as set forth below.

A complete listing of all claims in this application is set forth below. This listing will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

## **Listing of Claims**

1. (Currently amended) A joint prosthesis comprising:

~~a stem for engagement with~~ configured to be implanted within a bone, said stem ~~having a surface~~ defining a first coupler bore therein having a proximal bore segment and a distal bore segment;

~~a joint component having a bearing surface for articulating engagement with an opposing joint component~~ and defining a second coupler bore; and

~~a mounting element having (i) a proximal portion for engagement to said joint component~~ received within said second coupler bore of said joint component in a friction fit manner, and ~~(ii) an~~ a spherical articulating portion configured for articulating movement received within said proximal bore segment of said first coupler bore of said stem, and

a fastener located within both said proximal bore segment and said distal bore segment and having an externally threaded shaft,

wherein said stem defines a plurality of internal threads located within said distal bore segment of said first coupler bore,

wherein said plurality of internal threads of said stem are meshingly engaged with said externally threaded shaft of said fastener,

wherein said stem further includes a ledge surface located within said first coupler bore that defines a fastener opening through which said fastener extends,

wherein said stem further includes proximal surface that defines a coupler opening through which said mounting element extends,

wherein said stem, when viewed in a cross-section, further includes a linearly extending interior wall that extends continuously from said ledge surface to said proximal surface, and

wherein said spherical articulating portion of said mounting element contacts said linearly extending interior wall of said stem at a location interposed between said ledge surface and said proximal surface.

Claim 2 (canceled).

3. (Currently amended) The joint prosthesis of claim 1, ~~further comprising~~  
wherein:

said mounting element defines a passageway through said mounting  
element extending therethrough; and

a proximal part of said fastener configured to pass through is located  
within said passageway and said bore in said stem, and a distal part of said  
fastener contacts having an end configured for engagement with the stem.

Claim 4 (canceled).

Claim 5 (canceled).

Claim 6 (canceled).

7. (Currently amended) The joint prosthesis of claim 1, wherein said  
second coupler bore of said joint component defines a female taper component,  
and said proximal portion of said mounting element defines a male taper  
component configured to mate with said female taper component ~~define a socket-~~  
~~taper interface for engagement of said joint component to said mounting element.~~

Claim 8 (canceled).

Claim 9 (canceled).

Claim 10 (canceled).

Claim 11 (canceled).

12. (New) A prosthesis comprising:

a stem configured to be implanted within a bone, said stem defining a first coupler bore;

a joint component having a bearing surface and defining a second coupler bore;

a mounting element having (i) a proximal portion received within said second coupler bore of said joint component in a friction fit manner, and (ii) a spherical articulating portion received within said first coupler bore of said stem, and

wherein said stem includes proximal surface that defines a coupler opening through which said mounting element extends,

wherein said stem, when viewed in a cross-section, further includes a linearly extending interior wall located within said first coupler bore that extends from said proximal surface, and

wherein said spherical articulating portion of said mounting element contacts said linearly extending interior wall of said stem.

13. (New) The prosthesis of claim 12, wherein:

said mounting element defines a passageway extending therethrough; and

a proximal part of said fastener is located within said passageway, and a distal part of said fastener contacts said stem.

14. (New) The prosthesis of claim 12, wherein said second coupler bore of said joint component defines a female taper component, and said proximal portion of said mounting element defines a male taper component configured to mate with said female taper component.

15. (New) The prosthesis of claim 12, wherein said stem is configured to be implanted within a humerus.

16. (New) The prosthesis of claim 12, wherein said bearing surface of said joint component is configured to mate with a glenoid component.

17. (New) The prosthesis of claim 1, wherein said stem is configured to be implanted within a humerus.

18. (New) The prosthesis of claim 1, wherein said bearing surface of said joint component is configured to mate with a glenoid component.